

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON DAVENPORT NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Judith M. Davenport, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2020?

The nomination was confirmed.

VOTE ON ARROYO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of David J. Arroyo, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2016?

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

BANK ON STUDENTS EMERGENCY LOAN REFINANCING ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

RADZANOWSKI CONFIRMATION

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, first of all, I thank the Senate for confirming the nominee for Chief Financial Officer of NASA, David Radzanowski. Now the team is fairly complete over there, and we can move to the next phase.

As we move to the next phase, as we are getting ready to test the capsule called Orion that will ultimately be part of the vehicle that will take us to Mars in the decade of the 2030s, the rocket itself is being readied and its final design will be tested on a test stand in Mississippi at the Stennis Center in the next couple of years. So we are well on the way for NASA being able to get out and explore the cosmos beyond low Earth orbit.

As you know, we have an International Space Station that is 120 yards long. Think of a football field from one goalpost to the other, that is how big it is. There are six humans up there. We rotate the crews out with the Russians and with the Europeans and in some cases we have had Japanese astronauts, so it is an International Space Station with an international crew. I thank the Senate for the confirmation today.

ISIS

Madam President, I am here to speak about the threat to America by ISIS. Every one of us has seen how brutal, how inhumane, how savage this group is. It was certainly brought home by

the killing—the beheading—of the two journalists, one of them from my State of Florida.

I would invite anyone to go on the Internet to see the images of what this group has done to others, just because someone has a different religious faith, in this particular case the Christians near Sinjar Mountain. You should see the photographs. Maybe you don't want to see the photographs of the infants they have beheaded because their parents are of a different faith.

You should see the photographs of the women whom they are slitting their throats and letting their lifeblood drain into a basin bowl as they hold down the women. This is the savagery. That is why the President so appropriately, eloquently, very directly and very firmly last night spoke about he is using his constitutional power as Commander in Chief to go after them. The President also said he wants the support of Congress.

It is true the President—in this Senator's opinion—has the authority to strike, but as he clearly reminded us last night, this is not a short-term deal. This is going to be a long-term and involved effort. So the Congress should register its support of the authorization to use military force. That is what we can do as we get into the debate of should that force be limited.

I have filed one version. I have no pride of authorship. I want it to be debated. I have suggested there would be the ability to use all the defense force except rotational ground forces, which is the term of art in the Department of Defense meaning big ground armies. That is what the President wants to avoid when he talks about boots on the ground, that he doesn't want that. That is what the American people do not want, and that is what this Senator does not want.

But we certainly don't want to handcuff the Department of Defense and our military in carrying out the successful objective of being able to go after and help eliminate this savage beast called ISIS or ISIL or as they characterize themselves, the Islamic State.

Today Secretary Kerry is in the Middle East. He is working on the coalition. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel is making phone calls. Last week at the summit—the NATO summit—along with the President, he was already talking with his counterparts there. They are knitting together the coalition that will be a coalition not only of NATO but a coalition of so many in the region, including, we hope, a lot in the Arab League.

So isn't it time we know this effort that is hugely supported by the American people—isn't it time for the Congress to register our approval by exercising our constitutional duty? I would suggest it is.

I know some of the hearings are starting next week. Later this afternoon the Senate will have a classified briefing on the threat of ISIS. Many of us have already had a number of those

briefings and know this is a threat like we have not faced before—not only because of the savagery but also the fact that they are well organized, they have a jihadist mission, and they are well funded.

Part of our effort as we reach out to our coalition is to get them to stop the avenues of funding that is going in to this organization.

I will close by saying that for the Congress to register our support, by the support of this type of legislation, is to show our allies and the world—not only to show the unity of America behind this effort, both clandestine and overtly military—but also to show our enemies the unity of America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I rise to speak to regret that the constitutional amendment proposed by Senator UDALL lost 54 to 42. Of course, a majority voted for it, but we need two-thirds for a constitutional amendment. I first want to thank Senator UDALL for his great leadership on this issue. As chairman of the rules committee and a member of the Judiciary Committee, I have worked with him on this, and I know his passion and dedication to straightening our country out, straightening our system of campaign finance out.

Second, I want to say this: We are going to keep fighting until we get this done. The only way really to cure the Supreme Court's misguided ruling, whether it is in Citizens United or McCutcheon, is with a constitutional amendment. Our day will come. We are not giving up.

When the Supreme Court issued its ruling in McCutcheon several months ago, it was another step on the path towards destruction of our system of campaign finance laws. First in Citizens United and then in McCutcheon, the Supreme Court has been chipping away at the actual foundation of our democracy that everyone is equal in the political arena. It just does not mean equal in terms of votes; it means that if you are a multimillionaire, you should not be allowed to drown out the messages of everybody else.

If Congress does not respond, our system is going to collapse. This year, the amount of independent expenditures from a small number of individuals will exceed the money spent by all the others. It is just amazing. We cannot have it. That is why Democrats will continue to fight for a constitutional amendment that would finally allow us to fight back and regulate the dark